

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action dated August 26, 2005, has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendments to the claims have been made in consequence thereof. Claims 1-8 have been canceled. Claims 9-14 are new in order to advance the prosecution of this application. Claims 9-14 remain active in this application.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Claims 1-8 have been canceled including the “whereby” language in canceled claim 1. Claims 9-14 are new, and comprise claims as suggested by the Examiner. New independent claim 9 provides for a spin dope, as suggested by the Examiner, not a solution. In view of new claims 9-14, Applicants assert that new claims 9-14 particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

The Examiner stated that claim 6 is redundant. Claim 6 has been canceled.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification does not reasonably provide enablement for a polymer solution formed of only solutes. Claims 1-8 have been canceled. New claims 9-14 teach a conductive polymer membrane article having polymer fibers formed from a spin dope, not a solution.

Applicants assert that the specification, pages 8-11, provides enablement for one of ordinary skill in the art that is reasonably commensurate in scope with the properties delineated in new claims 9-14.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Rodriguez et al.* (US 5,972,499). Claims 1, 7 and 8 have been canceled.

New claim 9 teaches a polymer fibers formed from a spin dope that includes a matrix polymeric material having a photo-reactive dye which is selected from a group, as described, for example, in the specification on page 9, lines 7-15.

Rodriguez et al. does not teach photo-reactive dyes as taught by Applicants.

The Examiner rejected claims 2 - 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Rodriguez et al.* in view of *Angelopulos et al.* (US 5,997,773). Claims 2-6 have been canceled; and new claim 9 comprises canceled claims 1 and 2.

Dyes and conductive components provide different properties and applications. Fibers are nonwoven for better surface area for capture of solar rays. Applicants' fibers can produce or conduct electrical currents given the dye components contained in the present application. Photonic absorption is not taught by *Rodriguez et al.* in view of *Angelopulos et al.*, both of which teach applications that are antistatic or conductive but neither teach an article that may be photoelectric.

Addition of photoreactive dyes or compounds is part of the present invention, is new, and is not obvious due to different applications taught by Applicants. These photoreactive compounds singly or in combination affect the amount of photons generated which in turn generates electrical response such as electrical amperage. The membrane also has conductive polymers and nanoparticles which help electrons generated by the photoelectric compounds flow thru the membrane article. The prior art mentions conductive polymers and nanoparticles but does not teach generation of electricity, how electricity is conducted, and the resistance of the article that is taught by the prior art. The prior art does not mention photoelectricity or solar generating activity of the article.

The teachings of new claims 9-14, would not be obvious over *Rodriguez et al.* in view of *Angelopoulos et al.*

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that new Claims 9-14 in this application are allowable and Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner wish to contact Applicants' attorney regarding this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to do so by calling or writing the undersigned in the Office of Counsel, U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center, Natick, MA 01760 at (508) 233-4510.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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